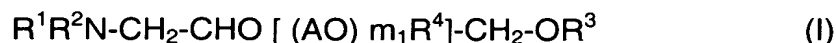


**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

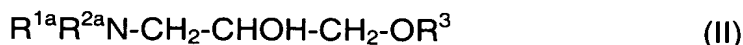
1. (Original) A compound of the formula (I):



where

- $R^1$  is an alkoxyated polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl group; or  
 $R^2$  is independently a group as defined for  $R^1$ ; hydrocarbyl, particularly alkyl; alkoxyalkyl; optionally end-capped alkoxyated hydroxyalkyl; or  
 $R^2$  is a group of the formula:  $-CH_2-CHO[(AO) m_1 R^4]-CH_2-OR^3$  where AO,  $m_1$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^3$  are each independently as defined below;  
 $R^3$  is hydrocarbyl, usually  $C_6$  to  $C_{30}$ , particularly  $C_8$  to  $C_{30}$ , more particularly  $C_{10}$  to  $C_{20}$ , especially alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl;  
each AO is independently an alkyleneoxy group, particularly a  $C_2$  to  $C_4$  alkyleneoxy group, especially a  $C_2$  or  $C_3$  alkyleneoxy group, or a mixture of  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  alkyleneoxy groups;  
 $m_1$  is from 0 to 50, but usually at least 0.1, and desirably from 0.5 to 20; and  
 $R^4$  is hydrogen, or alkyl;  
such that the average total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the molecule is at least 3.

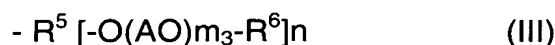
2. (Original) An alkoxyated compound of the formula (II)



where

- $R^{1a}$  is a polyhydroxy hydrocarbyl group;  
 $R^{2a}$  is independently a group as defined for  $R^{1a}$ , or is hydrocarbyl, particularly alkyl or alkoxyalkyl or hydroxyalkyl, or is a group of the formula:  $-CH_2-CHOH-CH_2-OR^3$  where  $R^3$  is hydrocarbyl,  
in which the average total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the molecule is at least 3.

3. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is a group of the formula (III):



where

R<sup>5</sup> is the residue of a hydrocarbyl group;

R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, or alkyl;

AO is an alkyleneoxy group;

m<sub>3</sub> is an average value of from 1 to 20; and

n is from 3 to 10.

4. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 3 wherein R<sup>5</sup> is the residue (notionally obtained by removing hydroxyl groups from the parent group) of a polyhydroxy alkyl group having a linear C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>7</sub> chain.

5. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~either claim 3 or claim 4~~ claim 3 wherein n is from 3 to 6.

6. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2 to 4~~ claim 1 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is an alkyl group and R<sup>3</sup> is a C<sub>10</sub> to C<sub>30</sub> alkyl, alkenyl, alkaryl, aryl or aralkyl group.

7. (Currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 or 2 to 5~~ claim 1 wherein the alkyleneoxy group (s) AO is(are) ethyleneoxy, propyleneoxy or mixtures of ethyleneoxy and propyleneoxy groups.

8. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 6 wherein the total number of alkyleneoxy groups in the compound of the formula (I) is from 5 to 30.

9. (Currently amended) An agrochemical composition including as adjuvant a compound of the formula (I) as claimed in ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

10. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in claims 9 wherein the agrochemically active compound is one or more plant growth regulators, herbicides, and/or pesticides, for example insecticides, fungicides, acaricides, nematocides, miticides, rodenticides, bactericides, molluscicides and/or bird repellants.
11. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 9 wherein the agrochemically active compound is or includes at least one water soluble herbicide.
12. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 10 wherein the water soluble herbicide is or includes at least one phosphonomethyl glycine ; at least one phosphinyl amino acid; and/or at least one bipyridinium compound.
13. (Currently amended) A composition as claimed in any ~~one of claims 9 to 12~~ claim 9 which additionally includes at least one further surfactant.
14. (Original) A composition as claimed in claim 13 which additionally includes at least one alkylpolysaccharide surfactant.
15. (Currently amended) A method of treating vegetation by applying to plants and/or soil a composition as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9.
16. (Currently amended) A method of killing or inhibiting vegetation by applying a formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9 which includes one or more growth regulators and/or herbicides and at least one compound of the general formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 as an adjuvant.
17. (Currently amended) A method of killing plant pests by applying a formulation as claimed in ~~any one of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9 which includes one or more pesticides, fungicides or acaricides, and at least one compound of the general formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 as an adjuvant.